

AFNS Review

Compiled from the Air Force News Service

Jan. 19, 1998

Ryan addresses Air Force challenges

by Gen. Michael E. Ryan
Air Force chief of staff

WASHINGTON (AFNS - 980051) — I have heard the lament that, “the Air Force is not what it used to be during the Cold War,” and I must tell you that is absolutely true; this “ain’t” our fathers’ Air Force. As the world around us changes, so must all the services, including the Air Force. But the really exciting part of this change is the ever increasing role airpower contributes to the security of our nation. Air and space power is now decisively employed to bring relief and peace to many regions of the world.

These accomplishments are only possible because of you, the dedicated men and women of the U.S. Air Force. Although our transition to an expeditionary force is not without growing pains, what you do on a day-to-day basis helps to ensure our nation’s security.

As a result, one of the Air Force’s major challenges today is to retain the high-quality people we need. Ultimately, it’s dedicated Air Force people who provide the foundation of our war-fighting capability. Because you are the most valuable part of our Air Force, the leadership of the Air Force is dedicated to your success; because you are part of our Air Force team, our force and our family.

Our game plan to retain such high-quality people has four major focus areas: (1) reducing operations tempo, (2) improving care for families of deployed people, (3) improving quality of life, which includes compensation for all members, and (4) improving personnel programs.

The following is a status report for each of our focus areas:

Operations Tempo

Several initiatives to decrease OPTEMPO are in place. You can find a summary of actions that have already been

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taken on the Air Force Issues Home Page at “www.issues.af.mil/optempo.html.”

In addition, there are many new initiatives intended to reduce OPTEMPO, to include:

- A 5 percent reduction in Air Force and joint training exercises in fiscal years 1999 and 2000;

- A 15 percent cut in people supporting chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff-directed exercises effective Jan. 1;

- Ending Quality Air Force assessments effective Jan. 1;

- A 10 percent reduction in the length of inspections and the number of inspectors used for operational readiness inspections in FY ’98 with another 20 percent reduction in FY ’99;

- Combining inspector general inspections with real-world deployments when possible; and

- Improving training opportunities for people deployed to Southwest Asia.

We will continue to seek ways to reduce OPTEMPO for the total force. Look for updates in future NOTAMs.

Improving care for families of deployed people

To improve the care for families of deployed people, we are pursuing an ombudsmen program to help families of deployed members get access to base services. The ombudsmen will be

charged by their wing commanders to serve as personal advisors on family issues related to deployment of active-duty people.

In addition, the Air Force is working to improve family member communication between deployed locations and home units through a deployable videophone that operates on standard telephone lines. Air Mobility Command is also equipping their base operations aircrew lounges with Internet-connected personal computers. The status of these initiatives can be found on “www.issues.af.mil/deplfam.html.”

Improving quality of life and compensation

Investments in quality-of-life initiatives create the living and working environments that allow our people to excel and their families to thrive. The Air Force has a prioritized list of initiatives that we seek to implement each year. In addition to a 2.8 percent pay raise and an increase in the pilot bonus, the FY ’98 National Defense Authorization Act included many pay and personnel benefits for our force. For details on the NDAA, see “www.issues.af.mil/ndaa.html.”

We are also working to improve the infrastructure that supports our force. The FY ’98-’99 funding program constructs, replaces or improves more than 3,800 military family housing units; constructs or renovates 21 dormitories; and provides three child development centers, two education centers, one fitness center and one family support center. For more details on the FY ’98 program, see “www.issues.af.mil/fundprog.html”.

Improving personnel programs

Various feedback mechanisms like the Air Force chief of staff survey give us insight on personnel programs that might contribute to our people’s dissatisfaction. This feedback allows us to modify current programs or initiate new ones to address

specific issues.

Recently, for example, we developed a comprehensive benefits and career job reservation fact sheet for supervisors to use during semi-annual feedback with their first- and second-term airmen. We also modified the officer promotion board charge to advise board members that all field-grade rated officers reassigned to line duties should be viewed as meeting the needs of the Air Force.

For information on these and other recent personnel program initiatives, see "www.issues.af.mil/persprog.html."

CORONA Fall '97:

Several other retention proposals were approved for study at CORONA Fall 97, the semiannual meeting of senior Air Force leaders. These studies are due for presentation in February at CORONA South. The studies include:

- Continuation to 20 years of service for twice-deferred captains in rated and air battle manager Air Force specialties;

- Evaluation of the officer below-the-zone promotion policy;

- Implementation of Phoenix Aviator "20" — a program to prepare pilots for airline jobs after retirement at 20 years of service;

- Increased production of navigators and electronic warfare officers; and

- A comprehensive review of the officer assignment system.

Future NOTAMs will have information on these studies.

Rescue squadron aids state after massive ice storm

LONG ISLAND, N.Y. (AFNS - 980053) — The governor of New York activated an Air National Guard rescue unit recently to aid the state with recovery from what many are calling the worst ice storm in a century.

Following the presidential declaration that a disaster situation existed in five upstate counties of New York, Governor George Pataki called up members of the 106th Rescue Wing, including three aircraft. The squadron will provide search and rescue operations in the storm-stricken area.

"The 106th will provide three aircraft for as long as the governor needs them," said Col. Bobby L. Brittain, 106th RW commander,

The three aircraft include one HC-130 Hercules. That aircraft will serve as an airborne radio relay center for all other National Guard aircraft in the 7,000 square mile search area.

"This is much like (the mission) we perform during every space shuttle launch," said Lt. Col. Robert Lanseidel, 102 Rescue Squadron commander. A crew of eight will be on board the HC-130.

Two MH-60 Pave Hawk helicopters will fly the actual low-level search mission. Each chopper will carry a crew of four: pilot, co-pilot, flight engineer and pararescueman. The MH-60 not only has an onboard global positioning system but also forward looking infrared radar. The radar's ability to detect heat is essential to the rescue operations, officials said.

"The Governor has directed the National Guard to lean forward and help our stricken communities," said Maj. Gen. Jack Fenimore, New York Guard adjutant general and former wing commander of the 106th.

"This is the type of mission that the unit trains for," said Brittain. "This is also what being a citizen soldier is all about — helping our neighbors." (Courtesy of the 106th RW Public Affairs office)

AMC delivers supplies to Montreal

SCOTT AIR FORCE BASE, ILL. (AFNS - 980054) — An Air Mobility Command C-17 Globemaster III and its crews have been busy delivering relief supplies to eastern Canada, hit recently by severe winter storms.

The C-17 from the 437th Airlift Wing, Charleston Air Force Base, S.C., flew four missions, transporting emergency workers, vehicles, generators, water purification equipment, field kitchens and critical provisions from Edmonton, Alberta, to Montreal, Quebec. The aircraft delivered a total of seven passengers and 181 tons of cargo. The missions were coordinated and planned by the Tanker Airlift Control Center here.

The C-17 is the newest cargo plane in the U.S. Air Force inventory. (Courtesy AMC News Service)

Military units fix homes for Typhoon Paka homeless

by Staff Sgt. Orville Desjarlais
Pacific Air Forces News Service

ANDERSEN AIR FORCE BASE, GUAM (AFNS - 980041) — "My home exploded," said Tady Otis, cradling one daughter while another daughter and his wife stand outside Air Force dorms turned into temporary shelters at Andersen South.

Otis is among the estimated 1,700 people on Guam left homeless by Typhoon Paka Dec. 16. More than 900 of them were moved into three open-bay dorms New Year's Eve, and life is about to get better for those with families.

Carpenters, plumbers, electricians and general construction workers from the 36th Civil Engineer Squadron here and the U.S. Army Reserve 411th Engineer Battalion have converged on the 354, two- and three-bedroom housing units on Andersen South once used by Kurdish evacuees during Operation Pacific Haven, which ended April 1997.

When crews finish work on the plumbing, electrical wiring and water heaters, families will begin moving into their temporary homes.

Otis' story began before the storm struck, when he uprooted his family and guided them to the safety of an elementary school that had been

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turned into a storm shelter.

"When I returned to my home about 7:30 the next morning, it was in pieces. All my stuff had been blown out, my roof was gone and even the walls were cracked," Otis said. He and his family ate, drank and slept in the school until New Year's Eve, when people began moving from the cramped confines of the schools to Andersen South.

Before the big move, though, about 200 Andersen people cleaned the area of the debris scattered about by Paka, then a Red Horse team of Air National Guard civil engineers arrived from Pennsylvania and Ohio Dec. 30. They joined forces with the Guam Army Reserve, Guam Air National Guard, private contractors and the Federal Emergency Management Agency to repair three dorms as livable shelters.

"We like it here," Otis said of the shelter, "but there is a lot of noise, even late at night. I'd really like to move into one of those homes."

Making that dream a reality falls on the shoulders of about 20 members of the 36th CES and more than 100 people of the 411th Engineer Battalion, Army Reservists from Alaska, Hawaii and Guam.

Theirs is a daunting task because they're working without electricity, replacing windows, doors and shutters, washing the outside of buildings, fixing the plumbing and air-conditioning, and whatever is needed, according to 1st Lt. Sharon McManus, 411th Engineer Battalion. She keeps track of the housing annex's status by using a large, color-coded map of the housing area.

The Air Force inspected the homes before work began, giving them a color coding for their status, green — ready to go, yellow — needs work; red — unlivable. More than half the homes on the map were yellow as of Jan. 7. "Our goal is to have all 354 units up and running by Jan. 23," McManus said.

Once the area gets electricity, workers will begin testing the hot water heaters, electric lines and air-conditioning units. If everything checks out, contracted cleaners will put the finishing touches on the housing units. When FEMA inspectors give the units final approval, those displaced by Paka will have a place to call home while they go about the task of rebuilding.

Air Force donates supplies to typhoon victims

by Staff Sgt. Orville Desjarlais
Pacific Air Forces News Service

BARRIGATA, GUAM (AFNS - 980042) — The Air Force donated an estimated \$60,000 in relief supplies to victims of Typhoon Paka here Jan. 7.

Most of the donated items, such as 900 cases of baby food, 480 cook sets, 648 packages of disposable diapers and 5,000 sewing kits, were humanitarian relief supplies left over from Operation Pacific Haven, a seven-month humanitarian operation at Andersen that ended in April 1997.

Barrigata residents had donated about \$650,000 in goods to the 6,600 Kurdish and Iraqi evacuees who were housed at Andersen South while seeking asylum in the United States. What was left, along with some Air Force appropriated money, was returned to the estimated 1,700 left homeless victims by Paka, which devastated Guam Dec. 16 with winds reportedly up to 236 mph.

The supplies are being given to people like Daniel Desoto, who survives in a tent set atop the ruins of what once was his home, located about a mile from Andersen Air Force Base's back gate.

Desoto had four separate homes, one for himself and three for his four sons. He now has only one home, a tent and a few chickens. "We're eating all right. We're cooking with firewood," he said. Desoto doesn't know if he'll ask the Government of Guam for some of the relief supplies donated by the Air Force, but he has sought assistance from the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the American Red Cross.

"What the Air Force has demonstrated today is that they are, in fact, a part of the community and not just faceless individuals behind the fence," said Guam Governor Carl Gutierrez.

"What you're seeing here is almost a complete circle of how this community has always interacted with the military. I feel the military is not just part of the community, but part of the culture of Guam," the governor said.

It took six, 40-foot tractor trailers to deliver the 71 pallets to a FEMA warehouse.

"These items are needed," said Col.

William Hodges, 36th Air Base Wing commander. "I've talked with some of the people in the shelters who've had to sacrifice an awful lot. Some aren't able to have nice fresh diapers to put on their children. It's a tough situation.

"It's tough, emotionally. They're working really hard to rebuild their lives and today, three weeks after the typhoon, I'm glad we're still doing everything we can to support that effort. The cleanup is going to take a long time and putting those lives back together is going to take even longer."

Leading Vietnam ace retires after 30 years' service

EDWARDS AIR FORCE BASE, Calif. (AFNS - 980043) — More than 25 years after scoring his fifth and sixth kills in Vietnam skies, the leading fighter ace of that conflict retired here after 30 years of Air Force.

Col. Charles DeBellevue, who served here as the 95th Air Base Wing commander from May 1992 to July 1995, was most recently assigned as the commander of the AFOTC Detachment 440, University of Missouri-Columbia, Columbia Mo. Gen. Lloyd "Fig" Newton, commander, Air Education and Training Command, and close friend to DeBellevue, officiated the retirement ceremony.

During the Vietnam War, DeBellevue flew in the F-4 Phantom. Only five fliers would be named aces during the Vietnam War. Leading the score with six aerial victories was DeBellevue. He was the first nonpilot ace in the Air Force. He downed his fifth and sixth MiG-21s over North Vietnam Sept. 9, 1972.

DeBellevue's military awards include the Air Force Cross, the Silver Star with two oak leaf clusters, the Legion of Merit, and the Distinguished Flying Cross with five oak leaf clusters.

Tyndall squadron graduates first enlisted weapons directors

by Capt. Marty Catalano
325th Training Squadron

TYNDALL AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. (AFNS - 980046) — Two Air Force reservists stepped into military history Dec. 4 becoming the first enlisted Air



Looking for the best

The Air Force is looking for recruiters. Few people will deny that recruiting duty can be challenging, but many find it to be one of the most rewarding jobs in the Air Force. The normal tour of duty for a recruiter is four years with the possibility of a two-year extension and career recruiter status.

Recruiter duty offers stability (no possibility for an overseas tour for four years), the chance to live in a civilian community (maybe your hometown) and a change of pace from the duties of your primary Air Force specialty code.

There are a number of prerequisites for becoming a recruiter. An applicant must:

- be a technical sergeant, staff sergeant, staff sergeant-select or second-term senior airman;
- be highly qualified in an AFSC (appropriate level of training and good enlisted performance reports);
- be eligible for a permanent change of station;
- be outstanding in appearance, military bearing, conduct and past performance;
- be in good health;
- be committed to the Air Force; and
- satisfy administrative requirements, such as having a valid state driver's license and meeting a recruiter selection board.

There are also benefits available to those selected to be recruiters:

- \$375 per month special duty pay for field recruiters;
- Leased family housing;
- Cellular phones; and
- Reimbursement of authorized out-of-pocket expenses associated with recruiting.

Applicants should contact their military personnel flight for guidance on application procedures. Information is also available at the following web site: <http://www.rs.af.mil/rtr.htm>.

Force Reserve Airborne Warning and Control System weapons directors graduating from a training course here.

Staff Sgt. Mareca Fischer and Airman 1st Class Terrance Everitt learned the skills necessary in the 60-day course to direct aircraft conducting air defense and tactical missions and to coordinate aircraft control and warning activities.

Former Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Ronald Fogleman completed the formation of an AWACS Reserve unit to reduce the number of days per year active-duty troops are deployed. Currently, AWACS reservists are participating in Operation Southern Watch and Operation Provide Comfort.

Annually, the 325th TRS trains 48 active-duty, Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve enlisted weapons directors and 132 active-duty, Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve officer air battle managers.

Hill F-16s collide, pilots safe

HILL AIR FORCE BASE, Utah (AFNS - 980026) — Two 388th Fighter Wing F-16s collided in mid-air about 1:30 p.m. Jan. 7 over the Utah Test and Training Range, located 105 miles west of Hill AFB.

One aircraft impacted the range and the pilot ejected safely. The pilot was located and transported to a hospital where his condition was evaluated.

The other aircraft sustained damage but landed safely at Michael's Army Air Field at Dugway Proving Grounds. There was one person on board each aircraft.

An accident board is being formed to investigate the incident. (Courtesy ACC News Service)

Another F-16 crashes at Hill Air Force Base

HILL AIR FORCE BASE, Utah (AFNS - 980030) — A 388th Fighter Wing F-16C crashed Jan. 8 while flying a simulated bombing mission over the Utah Test and Training Range near Bonneville Salt Flats, Utah, about 100 miles west of Hill AFB.

The pilot, Lt. Col. Judd Kelley, from

the 34th Fighter Squadron, ejected safely from the single-seat aircraft. He was transported to the Hill AFB hospital by a Utah Army National Guard HH-60 Blackhawk helicopter.

Following the accident, the 388th FW canceled flying for the remainder of the day and Jan. 9.

An accident board is being formed to investigate the accident.

Apparent double-murder suicide committed at Edwards

EDWARDS AIR FORCE BASE, Calif. (AFNS - 980034) — Three people are dead as a result of a suspected double murder suicide here this morning.

At approximately 2 a.m. today, Tech. Sgt. Robert B. Butler, a security policeman assigned to the 95th Security Forces Squadron here, was shot during a traffic stop on base. Butler died at the scene.

The suspect, Senior Airman Devaughn L. Brown, assigned to the 412th Test Squadron, was found dead in the recreation room of his dormitory at approximately 6:45 a.m. of an apparent self-inflicted gunshot wound.

An additional victim, Senior Airman Darrick F. Moore, assigned to the 412th Logistics Support Squadron, was found dead of gunshot wounds near the base

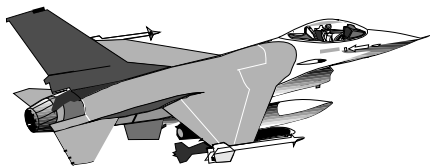
landfill. Brown was driving the victim's vehicle when Butler stopped him.

Langley F-15s head to Iceland

by Airman 1st Class Erik R. Stetson
1st Fighter Wing Public Affairs

LANGLEY AIR FORCE BASE, Va. (AFNS - 980040) — Four Langley F-15s launched before dawn Jan. 4 for the darkness of Iceland's arctic winter. This is the fourth consecutive year Langley fighters have deployed to Keflavik Naval Air Station, Iceland, to support their Military Air Defense Zone.

"Defending Iceland is one of our responsibilities as NATO members," said Col. Irv Halter, 1st Operations Group commander. "While we only have about 50 people there, we give the assignment to our more experienced pilots. It's not



considered a mission for the uninitiated since high winds and driving snow often crop up unexpectedly.”

“There’s not much daylight. Sunrise is about 11:15 a.m. and sunset about 4 p.m.,” said Capt. Malcolm Kemeny, a 94th Fighter Squadron pilot now deployed there. “We fly in perpetual dusk, and sometimes the winds and visibility do change on a dime.”

Since weather conditions often keep pilots from flying enough to keep their training current, commanders swap them out more frequently than other people, Halter said. Pilots return to Langley from Iceland every 15 days, and maintainers every 30 days.

Maj. Craig Underhill, 1st Operation Support Squadron detachment commander, said he was pleased with the deployment and initial operations. He reported no problems during travel there. “We are on a two-hour alert commitment twenty-four hours daily,” Kemeny said. “On weekdays, we meet the commitment by flying training sorties. After duty hours, we have three pilots and some crew chiefs on alert until the morning.”

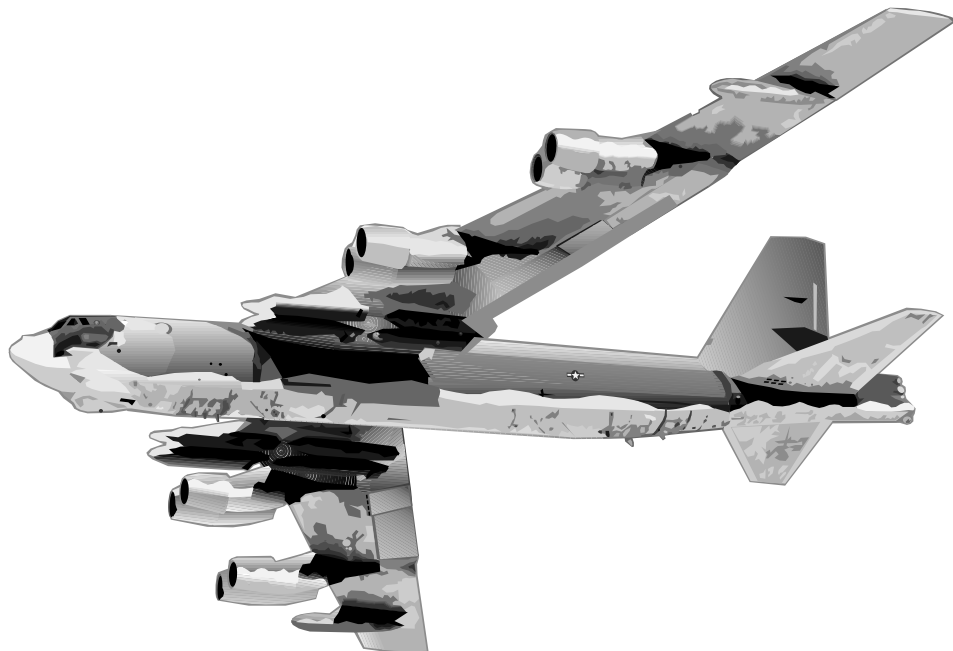
Kemeny said living conditions are good in Keflavik, and that 1st OSS members have standard rooms, television and access to telephones and electronic mail. Pilots and maintainers from Langley will continue to rotate to Iceland through March. (Courtesy ACC News Service)

B-52s integrate with Joint STARS

by Airman Tiffany A. Lewis
93rd Air Control Wing Public Affairs

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. (AFNS - 980039) — Two B-52 bombers from Minot AFB, N.D., participated in an exercise with the Joint Surveillance Target Attack Radar System’s E-8C aircraft recently.

The exercise marked the first time the bombers used the Joint STARS technology — the Handheld Terminal Unit. Joint STARS scanned the exercise area over Fort Stewart, Ga., and repeatedly tasked the bombers to attack various targets using the HTU, which provides real-time targeting data to aircrews, according to Maj. Ron Funk, 93rd Operations Support Squadron exercise and readiness flight commander.



Two Joint STARS people were sent to Minot prior to the exercise to test the connectivity of the HTU and to train the bomber crews to use the system.

“The HTU was easily compatible with the B-52’s system,” said Senior Master Sgt. Rick Ojeda, 93rd Air Control Wing deputy chief of wing plans. “The test went very smooth and the B-52 crews were enthusiastic to learn about the HTU.”

The purpose of the integration is to continue the development of the tactics, techniques and procedures for airborne alert interdiction and Joint STARS attack support operations, Funk said.

This integration enhances worldwide bomber projection of decisive airpower in the initial stage of conflicts by providing near-real-time targeting information. Joint STARS can also provide information on moving and stationary ground targets, and is essential in developing an understanding of the enemy situation to delay, disrupt and destroy their momentum.

In short, with Joint STARS and bomber integration, “decisive airpower, anytime, anywhere” becomes “decisive airpower, at the right place, at the right time,” according to Funk.

“The ability to interact directly and plan missions with the bomber crews provides a valuable training opportunity for the B-52 and E-8 aircrews,” Funk said. “It allows us to put a face to the voice in the other cockpit and gives us a chance to discuss before and after the mission what worked, what didn’t, and what we can

change in order to do it better and more effectively.”

“Both units will take away lessons learned from these flights and incorporate them into concepts of operations for future missions,” said Capt. Robert Umstead, a pilot instructor at the 5th Bomb Wing at Minot.

“We fully intend to share lessons learned throughout the bomber community to standardize future bomber employments with Joint STARS.” (Courtesy ACC News Service)

Communications system links SWA with ships in Gulf

by Senior Airman Jamieson Bobbitt
4409th Wing (Provisional) Public Affairs

ESKAN VILLAGE, Saudi Arabia (AFNS - 980038) — The 4409th Communications Squadron tactical switch crew recently designed, built and installed a new telephone link between Eskan Village and U.S. ships in the Persian Gulf through U.S. Central Command, headquartered at MacDill AFB, Fla.

To comply with their tasking to develop the new voice communication link, the 4409th CS began by using a resource already available to them, the tri-service tactical network. TRI-TAC is a communication system that connects the Army, Marine Corps and Air Force. After trying several unsuccessful methods, they formed a Commander’s Action Team to come up with new ideas. Following that

pattern, the CAT team quickly came up with an alternate solution to their problem.

"We brainstormed and stepped outside the box," said Master Sgt. Pat Farinha, 267th Combat Communications Squadron TTC-39 Van NCO in charge, Otis Air National Guard Base, Mass. By changing the usual methods used, the team came up with a plan to build and install a new circuit in the Eskan Systems Control Facility.

"I was amazed how quickly the action team responded," said Rear Adm. John Cotton, Joint Task Force-Southwest Asia deputy commander. "They are extremely innovative."

"With the new idea, we got it working within three days," said Airman 1st Class John Compton, 4409th CS systems control. The wiredogs, the people who lay out the telephone wire, installed the connecting wire the team needed to hook into so they could communicate with MacDill.

Compton put together and programmed the equipment that encrypts information for secure transfer to MacDill. After the system was assembled, other technicians stayed up all night testing it to make sure it worked. All the work was finished two days ahead of schedule.

The 4409th Communications Squadron tactical switch crew in the TTC-39 Van, one of three communication hubs which supports the communication of eight sites in the five countries in the Southwest Asia area of responsibility, controls 160 secure and unsecured communications lines on Eskan. They process about 60,000 calls through their network weekly. (Courtesy ACC News Service)

Conference highlights roadmap for future AEFs

by Staff Sgt. Sonja C.R. Whittington
366th Wing Public Affairs

MOUNTAIN HOME AIR FORCE BASE, Idaho (AFNS - 980035) —

Building a roadmap to ensure the success of future rapid response air expeditionary force deployments was the focus of a conference held here recently.

Representatives from various major commands, wings who have participated in previous AEF deployments, the Air Expeditionary and Force Protection battlelabs, and Rand Corporation attended the conference to compare operational, logistical, and support experiences, and to identify common trends

during deployments.

"The immediate focus was on actionable items to improve our present day rapid-response AEF capabilities," said Lt. Col. Gail Duke, 366th Logistics Group deputy commander. "Longer-term planning will focus on issues that require corporate Air Force decision making."

During the conference, concerns were broken down into four main areas: planning, execution, beddown, and employment.

The planning phase focused on what units have learned that can help them prepare for future rapid-response deployments.

During the first few AEF deployments, units were notified well in advance of their deployment and had adequate time to prepare and evaluate their requirements. Under the rapid-response AEF concept, a unit will be required to react in absolute minimum time to tasking orders, explained Col. William Clark, 366th LG commander.

Moving toward a rapid-response AEF requires units to identify their minimum essential requirements in advance of a deployment notification, said Clark.

For instance, conference attendees prioritized the communications requirement to identify the minimum support needed to sustain AEF operations until follow-on equipment could arrive.

The first step, as called out by the roadmap, is to flesh out concepts of operations for the fighters, bombers, tankers, and Army patriot missile batteries that are generally tasked to form an AEF. Designated operational commitment statements for the various participating units may need adjusting to appropriately represent their current missions, Clark explained.

From there, units should be able to develop unit type codes that identify minimum requirements for essential support activities such as communications, force protection and medical.

Another key item identified by the conference attendees as requiring standardization was equipment support. Knowing what materials should be prepositioned in the theater of operations and who is responsible for in-theater repair of items that cannot be repaired on site, such as engines and electronic warfare components, will help ensure successful future AEF deployments.

In the past, these issues were settled through handshake agreements between logistics commanders, Clark explained. The conference attendees recommended these

issues be formally resolved through memorandums of agreement before a deployment is announced.

The conference attendees also identified key elements in bedding down an

AEF. They determined that having up-to-date base support plans with important beddown site information was an important key for AEF preplanning.

For the employment of an AEF, they identified a need to develop a standard munitions package for the initial rapid-response force. "The goal was to get the thinkers and planners, and those who execute, face-to-face to accelerate the learning curve; letting each learn from the experiences of others," said Clark.

Another conference in February will convene to focus on UTCs to standardize deployment packages between units. (Courtesy of Air Combat Command News Service)

Joint Reserve intelligence facility enhances skills of all services

ROME, N.Y. (AFNS - 980037) —

Reserve intelligence personnel from all three services will train with state-of-the-art equipment and systems as the result of the recent opening of the Joint Reserve Intelligence Facility at the Air Force Research Laboratory Information Directorate.

The 1,500-square-foot facility, co-located with the Information Directorate's Information and Intelligence Exploitation Division, houses servers and workstations linking it to intelligence production centers worldwide. It will allow Air Force, Army and Navy Reservists in upstate New York the opportunity to work alongside their active duty counterparts as an integral part of the intelligence community and the national defense team.

Rear Admiral Larry Poe, commander of the Naval Reserve Intelligence Command, and Brigadier General John Wilkinson, deputy director of Air Force Reserve Intelligence, opened the JRIF in ceremonies earlier this month. Representatives of all three services and local government officials attended the opening.

The JRIF is currently the home to two Naval Reserve Intelligence Area Seventeen Units, DIA Headquarters Unit 0705 and ONI 1805, both of which conducted drills in Buffalo until August. Preparations are



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underway to co-locate the Army Reserve's 3424th Military Intelligence Detachment, elements of the New York National Guard's 642nd Military Intelligence Battalion, and a detachment of the Air Force Reserve intelligence analysts in the JRIF.

The state-of-the-art workstations and servers in the JRIF provide the robust connectivity and the opportunity for seamless integration between Reserve analysts and their gaining command production centers — a relationship demanded by the increasingly critical role of Reservists in the armed forces.

Both General Wilkinson and Admiral Poe noted that, in the present era of budget constraints, active duty forces must increasingly rely on Reservists, not only for wartime augmentation but also for regular peacetime support to carry out their day-to-day responsibilities.

In addition to providing Reservists a joint, high-technology facility, the JRIF will also allow AFRL engineers to obtain timely feedback and input from experienced intelligence operators and analysts in the performance of new software packages developed for the intelligence mission. This arrangement should significantly shorten the time required to field high-quality system packages to active duty forces.

AF missileer heads to Romania

by Staff Sgt. Dean J. Miller
90th Space Wing Public Affairs

F.E. WARREN AIR FORCE BASE, Wyo. (AFNS - 980033) — At the end of the cold war, a visiting Russian bomber pilot at Barksdale Air Force Base, La., made an

interesting comment: He said he'd always known that someday he'd visit the U.S.; he just never thought he'd land.

That post-cold war anecdote is once again applied, only in reverse, as the 90th Space Wing prepares to send to the former Soviet-bloc nation of Romania, a missileer in peacetime rather than a missile in wartime.

"Even four years ago as I started pulling alerts, I thought it more likely for the wing to send something else to Romania," said Capt. Theodor Martinescu. "Things have changed so dramatically in the last decade. It's wonderful that I can impact that country as an ambassador of peace as opposed to a cold warrior."

Martinescu, former 400th Missile Squadron Romeo Flight commander, is enroute to Romania to assist that nation in developing policy to conduct operations as a modern military and work more effectively with U.S. and NATO forces. At 28, the Air Force missileer is finishing his first assignment in the Air Force, having arrived at Warren in 1993.

So what makes this airman qualified for such a daunting task? For starters, he is a native of Romania who immigrated to the United States with his family when he was 18 months old. To this day, Romanian is his second language.

These tributes made him exceptionally qualified to join the five-person U.S. Joint Contact Team for a six-month tour of duty in Romania. The captain will work with an Army colonel, Army National Guard lieutenant colonel, a Marine captain and a Navy senior NCO.

"I am very excited," said Martinescu

before his departure. "I've never served overseas and I've never served in a joint environment before. Additionally, Romania is my country of birth. My family immigrated when I was a year-and-a-half, and I haven't been back since."

Martinescu and his team will be in constant contact with members of the Romanian armed forces. The program has some lofty goals that include national stability, continued democratization of the Romanian government, improved military professionalism within the Romanian armed forces, and closer relations with NATO. Additionally, the Romanians have some very specific program goals ranging from improved command, control and communications systems to increasing responsibility of its noncommissioned officers.

As for the specifics of Martinescu's role on the team, "I don't have a lot of details; I just look forward to finding them all out when I get there."

Martinescu brings more than just his ability to translate for the team, he brings an in-depth understanding of the culture. "As soon as I arrive in-country, the first thing the Romanian people will recognize is my last name. The e-s-c-u in Martinescu is a very common suffix for a Romanian name. I hope that they will get a comfort level that they may not have had with prior military liaison team members that have had this assignment. I hope to bridge that culture gap that may have existed before," said the captain.

Routine family separations average just over 24 hours for missileers. Martinescu's wife, Tracy, had mixed emotions about his

six-month trip. "She is very excited for me because this is such a unique opportunity to meet relatives I've never met before. On the flip side, she's sad because I'll be away from her and my 17 month old son, Peter."

Although the assignment is an unaccompanied one, because Romania is a free country, the captain's wife, son and mother will visit him in April at his expense. The plan is for a first-ever extended family reunion.

Raised in Rochester, N.Y., Martinescu said his family achieved the American dream. His service in the Air Force was his way to pay back his country for the many successes his family has had, and he feels his trip to Romania will serve as a rededication to service.

"I expect to grow as an officer from working with inter-service and international military members. I also hope to come away with a better sense of professionalism," said Martinescu. "Most important, I expect to return with a better appreciation for the freedoms we sometimes lose sight of here in the United States."

Reserve to perform FAA inspection mission

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. (AFNS - 980025) — Air Force Reserve Command is joining the active-duty Air Force in support of the Federal Aviation Administration.

A new Reserve associate unit, the 1st Aviation Standards Flight, will perform flight inspections of navigational-aid radars and instrument procedures at military and civilian installations in the United States and overseas.

The 1st ASF, which is tentatively set to activate June 1, will stand up at Will Rogers Airport, Oklahoma City, and augment Air Force Flight Standards Agency Detachment 1, the on-site active-duty unit. The Reserve unit is being activated to provide additional people to perform the FAA mission overseas if and when required during contingencies.

The flight will augment the detachment with 23 people - one officer and three enlisted AGRs (Active Guard Reserve) who are full-time bluesuiters, and seven officer and 12 enlisted traditional reservists. The 1st ASF will be attached to the Reserve's 507th Air Refueling Wing, Tinker AFB, Okla., for administrative support.

A site activation task force will visit Will

Rogers Airport Jan. 26 to define actions needed to successfully implement this new associate unit. (Courtesy AFRC News Service)

Luke team revolutionizes pilot briefings

by Staff Sgt. Karina Jennings
56th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

LUKE AIR FORCE BASE, Ariz. (AFNS - 980050) — Looking for a better way to do business, three members of the 63rd Fighter Squadron here developed a program that could change the way the Air Force conducts pilot briefings in the future.

In fact, the computer advances these three have made in their spare time have made even Armstrong Laboratory sit up and take notice. The team of two instructor pilots and the squadron computer manager accomplished what the Air Force hasn't been able to — they've created a revolutionary Web briefing for pilots.

The program, called Briefing Room '98, standardizes the briefing process and saves the Air Force countless hours of work. Capt. Craig Brown, Maj. Dave MacArthur, and Staff Sgt. Eric Sables incorporated all F-16 mission briefings into a single electronic source. The briefing includes all flight regulations, safety supplements and training manuals, making them instantly accessible to instructor pilots and students.

It is a totally paperless briefing that is exportable and open-ended, so everyone with a good idea can input, explained Brown.

"This system is fantastic," said Col. Lynn Carroll, division chief of Armstrong Lab's warfighter training and research division. "In this emerging age of dependency on timely information, we desperately need a more efficient way to brief. And this system gives us that.

"It's a program created for warfighters by warfighters," said Carroll.

Since the three unveiled the program for the first time Oct. 29, efforts have been made to get the word out about their accomplishments.

It is an effort to encourage others with similar projects in the works to join forces and help the Air Force use technology more effectively.

"We are not possessive about this at all," stressed Brown. "Our only defensive posture is that this briefing remain useful for

the users' end gain. We don't want it changed so much that the simplicity and benefits we intentionally built in are taken out. Other than that, we'll share it with anyone interested in revolutionizing the briefing process."

According to MacArthur there hasn't been a change to pilot briefings since the white board with dry-erase markers replaced the chalkboard more than 10 years ago.

"It's time we introduced modern technology into our briefings," he said. Briefing Room '98 is run off the local area network using Intranet technology. The briefings are set up as Web pages with correlating links to Air Force instructions, manuals, video and PowerPoint drawings to assist instructor pilots in teaching students.

"We've essentially given IPs access to every instructional tool they could need at the click of a button," said Brown. "Currently, IPs take up to an hour and a half to draw their diagrams on the board, and then the drawing talent of each IP is varied. Not to mention there's no standardization for the information in their briefing guides.

"This changes all that. No more drawing and no more guess work on what's going to be taught. Briefings will continue to be individualized by the IPs, but the information will be standardized. And they'll have all the tools they need without putting in extra hours to get it."

MacArthur, a mathematics and statistics major, estimated the system can save the Air Force at least \$800,000 in increased IP utilization and man-hours saved.

"That's at a cost of \$300,000," he added. "So, you can see the rewards are in the Air Force's favor, both in monetary and training terms."

The system's development in and of itself is revolutionary, but the efforts put forth to create it are equally impressive.

The system, which took more than a year to create, was the third duty for each of these team members. There is Brown, who is first an IP then the chief of the standards and evaluation division; MacArthur, who is first an IP then the squadron's safety officer; and Sables, who is first the squadron's computer manager and then the unit's Intranet manager.

Also instrumental in the development was Tech. Sgt. Kurt Schroeder, the squadron's resource adviser, who found the money needed to fund the project.

"His diligent efforts to work the financial

side were pivotal to the program," Ruhlman said. "In addition, he lent extensive support to install the hardware in each of the briefing rooms. Without him, the system wouldn't be a success."

"These individuals need to be congratulated," said Carroll. "They recognized a problem, found a solution and took the initiative to implement it."

As more people hear and see the briefing system, advances are being made to implement the system servicewide. In December, Armstrong Labs sent over a programmer to work full-time with Brown and MacArthur.

According to Brown, 1st Lt. Jennifer Pshsnychniak is helping them overcome technical difficulties and develop new ideas to make the system even better, especially since "we can't do this full-time."

Pshsnychniak said Armstrong Lab is also interested in seeing if there are additional technological advances that can be made beyond what they've done.

"We're looking down the road," she said. "We may be able to introduce new technology into their current system to extend its usefulness over the next 10 to 15 years."

"An exchange of ideas has begun," added Brown.

According to Carroll, this prototype system will be "instrumental" in getting the Air Force positioned for the next century.

"The Air Force needs to take advantage of warfighters like these who recognize deficiencies," he said. "This is the right direction to go and we can't continue to have multiple systems across the Air Force. And so far, this is the most advanced system we've seen of technological use."

As the team's commander, Lt. Col. Phil Ruhlman couldn't be more pleased with their results.

"They are brilliant visionaries," he said, "and they've skillfully engineered the Air Force's first-ever electronic video briefing room while continuing to do outstanding work with their regular duties. We're very lucky to have them here all at once - the planets have aligned, so to speak — and for them to be so dedicated."

"This could be the foundation that standardizes all Air Force briefing rooms worldwide," he said. "And they could be permanently changing the briefing paradigm."

In the end, MacArthur, Brown and Sables just hope this opens up a new course in currently uncharted territory.

"Industry has been using this technology already, now it's our turn," said MacArthur. "We don't have any more people, we don't have any more time and we don't have any more money."

"The only way we're going to stay ahead is by being innovative, and if we don't do it someone else will. I truly believe this will keep us on top." (Courtesy Air Education and Training Command News Service)

Super camera faster than a speeding bullet

by Jennifer Walters Fey

Air Force Development Test Center

EGLIN AIR FORCE BASE, Fla.

(AFNS - 980049) — The Air Force Research Laboratory Munitions Directorate here recently let loose some fast-action shutter-bugs.

People from the Experimental Dynamics Imaging Team at the directorate, in conjunction with Silicon Mountain Design, Colorado Springs, Colo., created the first-ever digital "light-in-flight" camera.

"We can freeze the motion of the fastest projectile or fragment for precision measurement of size and velocity," said Don Snyder, senior chief of the team.

The team uses laser pulses to light up the object that is going to be photographed. The team then uses two digital cameras that have the ability to take clear, three-dimensional photos literally faster than a speeding bullet.

"This is the culmination of more than 20 years of work that began at University of Dayton Research Institute and Wright Lab in Ohio, worked its way through the National Laboratories, and ended here," Snyder said.

The technology is an expansion of American engineer Harold Edgerton's photography in the early 20th century. He invented the strobe light and took fast-action photos of bullets popping balloons and of the human body in motion.

What makes these cameras different from Edgerton's is that instead of seeing the smoke and splatter of a bullet hitting an apple, scientists can look through the clutter and see the actual bullet. Also instead of a slow film camera, the digital cameras being developed allow direct capture and analysis on the researcher's desktop computer.

Scientists are able to do this by using a narrow pulse of laser light that is 1,000 times brighter than the explosion. This laser "flashlight" allows researchers to look

through the debris to illuminate the projectile. Since the pulse of laser light is only 20 billionths of a second long, it acts like a fast shutter, lighting up a narrow slice of the area around the experiment. Special laser filters block out all light from the explosion or impact flash except for that provided by the laser.

"It's like watching a car come towards you at night with its headlights on. And then you put on a pair of special sunglasses that allow you to see just the car and not be blinded by the headlights," Snyder said.

This is important to Air Force technology because before when a Joint Direct Attack Munition was shown hitting the target, scientists could only guess what the actual munition was doing. A fireball obscured all of the metal shrapnel and the path of the munition. Now researchers can better see how the weapon forms fragments during impact and detonation in 3-D.

"We wanted more than just a pretty picture," said team member Eugene Chenette, Sverdrup Technology, Inc. "We want to be able to extract an on-line computer model out of the pieces of matter to see what's really happening to the munition."

With the new cameras and software under development, a 3-D stereo image lets the analyst see the fragments floating in space and accurately measure them.

According to Snyder, the new technology makes testing materials faster and cheaper than before. In two days, the team completed 30 experiments that would normally take about month to finish. By speeding up the test process and by directly putting the "film" or data on the engineer's desktop computer they hope to cut test costs in half.

The next step for the team is to demonstrate a digital stereo million-frame-per-second motion camera to record fragmentation data versus the still camera. For now the team is basking in their success.

Tour lengths change for Panama units

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE,

Texas (AFNS - 980052) — Tour lengths

for Air Force members assigned to Howard AFB, Panama, will be shorter effective March 1, according to officials at the Air Force Personnel Center here.

Blue-suiters assigned to the base will

now serve a 12-month unaccompanied tour, versus a 36-month accompanied or 24-month unaccompanied long tour.

Approved recently by the assistant secretary of defense for force management policy, the change affects members assigned to the 24th Wing, 640th Air Mobility Support Squadron, Air Force Legal Services Agency (Area Defense Council), and the 2nd Field Investigations Det. 214 (Office of Special Investigations).

The United States is scheduled to return control of the Panama Canal to Panama on Dec. 31, 1999. About 1,750 Air Force members are currently assigned to Howard.

Officials here said the change will have little effect on people currently assigned to the base. Members will retain their original date of expected return from overseas (DEROS), and family members will remain with their sponsors.

There are currently no plans to pro-rate tours for people assigned to Howard; however, officials said tour curtailments will be worked with local senior leadership and respective major commands based on management of local force structure actions.

Members with assignments to Howard with a reporting date prior to March 1 will retain their original assignment and are still authorized to bring their family members.

Members with a reporting date after March 1 will be contacted by personnel officials for their options. These members will either remain on assignment and not bring their families, or possibly have their assignment canceled contingent on their individual vulnerability.

Local military personnel flights have more information on the tour length change. (Courtesy Air Force Personnel Center News Service)

CENTAF commander praises SWA quality of life efforts

by Staff Sgt. Steve Horton
4404th Wing (Provisional) Public Affairs

PRINCE SULTAN AIR BASE, Saudi Arabia (AFNS - 980036) — The U.S. Central Command Air Forces commander praised the efforts put into the planned move from tent city to the new housing area during a recent four-day trip here.

Lt. Gen. Carl E. Franklin said he was

impressed with the efforts the Air Force Civil Engineer planning team and the 4404th Wing (Provisional) put forth in planning the relocation.

"Now that the Royal Saudi Air Forces are in the process of moving their assets here, we need to relocate consistent with their growth and use of their facilities. We need to do that efficiently to conserve our own taxpayer dollars as well as do things that are prudent with respect to our host," Franklin said.

"Now we will take the plan and get approval from the host for the laydown, and then take it into U.S. channels for funding necessary to do it," said Franklin. "Then, we will bring some help into the wing to get the relocation done quickly with the least impact on the mission as possible."

The CENTAF commander also talked about the challenges facing the wing. According to Franklin, complacency is one of the biggest problems that military members encounter in a daily enforcement mission, such as Operation Southern Watch.

"In any contingency operation such as this where there is a patrol nature of enforcing a no-fly zone or geographical zone, there is a high potential for complacency because from day-to-day there is little activity from the opposing side," he said. "The challenge for our airmen is to be ready should that challenge come on any given day."

Remaining ready runs the full spectrum of the operation, said Franklin. "For us to be ready, the entire team must have a sense of urgency. From the loaders on the ramp, to the administrative clerks in personnel, to the services people - it takes the entire team and the entire team must be ready when the challenge to our mission comes," he said.

Franklin said he was impressed with the quality of the work he saw in the wing. "I'm particularly impressed with the force protection that has been forged here to ensure that all of our people are safe. I think that we are in a very good position on that subject, but we must not let our guard down. Force protection remains our 'job one.' It must be the first and last consideration in anything that we do," he said.

"The continuous improvements in every aspect of this mission gives me great pride in the men and women of the United States Air Force, our coalition partners and our hosts. It is truly one

team, one fight," Franklin said. (Courtesy ACC News Service)

AMC committed to better dorms

by 1st Lt. Susan Riordan

AMC dormitory program manager

SCOTT AIR FORCE BASE, Ill.

(AFNS - 980048) — With the Jan. 8 grand opening of a 1+1 dormitory here, Air Mobility Command leads the Air Force in providing better housing for its unaccompanied airmen.

Scott is the second to open a 1+1 dorm in AMC, which in August, at McChord AFB, Wash., became the first command to open a 1+1 dormitory.

AMC is setting the standard in the Air Force for removing almost all central-latrine dorms from the inventory. The only exceptions are two at Pope AFB, N.C., and those are already part of a project for renovation to 1+1 standards.

At McChord, Judy Dickson, housing manager, said, "We are getting very positive reviews from the airmen. They enjoy the privacy and kitchen amenities, and everyone is already trying to get into the next 1+1 dorm."

The newest dorm at Scott has become a showcase for the 1+1 design for dignitaries and visitors to U.S. Transportation Command and Headquarters Air Mobility Command. Dozens of distinguished visitors have toured the facility since construction began, to include Army Gen. John Shalikashvili, former chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Visitors and airmen have been impressed by the new design, which offers a kitchenette, more storage space and living privacy. Well before the dorm was complete, airmen were volunteering to be reassigned to the new facility.

AMC's commitment to the dorm program doesn't stop here. AMC has 13 more 1+1 dorms scheduled to open during fiscal 1998. In addition, AMC has funded 16 others that are currently in various stages of design and construction. Under the current plan, nearly every base in AMC will have at least one 1+1 dormitory by the end of 2000.

The Air Force dorm program is not just about "1+1." It's also about 2+2 and providing more privacy for unaccompanied airmen. Although AMC has 31

1+1 dorms coming into the inventory, it has more than 120 existing 2+2 dorms. While the 1+1 design provides single-room occupancy, it does not address privacy for airmen already living in existing 2+2 double-occupancy rooms.

As a result of the Air Force's goal to improve dorm privacy for all unaccompanied airmen, a new dorm assignment policy will be phased in over six years. While many airmen hope for private rooms at a quicker pace, the phased schedule allows the Air Force time to allocate housing money and begin to add new dormitories to the inventory to support the new policy.

Currently, the policy authorizes private rooms for all grades in the remaining central-latrine dorms. Private rooms in standard dormitories will be phased in for E-4s and above through fiscal 1998, E-3s from fiscal 1998 through 2000, and E-1s and E-2s from fiscal 2000 through 2002.

Besides committing military construction funds for building 1+1 dorms, the Air Force has also committed operations and maintenance funds specifically for upgrading and maintaining existing dorms. AMC has also made huge steps to improve the more than 10,300 existing dormitory rooms. Over the past three years, AMC has spent more than \$33 million to upgrade existing dorms.

Every base in the command has benefited from these quality-of-life enhancement funds for dorms. Some of these projects are:

- The conversion of four central-latrine dorms to 1+1 dorms at Pope AFB;

- Seismic upgrades and renovations to nine dorms at Travis AFB, Calif.;

- Design dollars to convert three dorms at Andrews AFB, Md., to 1+1 dorms;

- Repair and upgrade of four dorms at Fairchild AFB, Wash.;

- Installation of mailboxes for individual mail service at McGuire AFB, N.J., Charleston AFB, S.C., and Andrews AFB.

Other projects include upgrading utilities and recreational and day rooms; constructing outside recreational courts and community areas; and

renovating building exteriors. (Courtesy AMC News Service).

Air Force officer receives Venezuelan air medal

by Matt Tulis
AMC News Service

SCOTT AIR FORCE BASE, ILL.
(AFNS - 980028) — An Air Force officer recently received a distinguished service medal. What makes that so unusual, is that the medal was awarded by the Venezuelan Air Force.

Maj. Hans Garcia, deputy chief of Air Mobility Command's channel development and performance division, was awarded the medal during a Dec. 10 celebration of the 77th anniversary of the Venezuelan Air Force held at El Libertador Air Base in Maracay.

The decoration from the oldest air force in the Americas is equivalent to the U.S. Meritorious Service Medal.

"It was an unexpected but very pleasant surprise to receive this medal," Garcia said. "I was honored to have been selected for such a rare distinction."

Garcia, a veteran of more than 20 years, spent three years stationed in Maracay, Venezuela, as part of an Air Force personnel exchange program.

The personnel exchange program is run in a number of countries throughout the world and involves a one-on-one exchange of officers between the U.S. and participating nations, allowing them to participate in the career broadening of their officers.

During his stay in Venezuela, Garcia, a Miami native fluent in Spanish, primarily worked as the logistics contact for Red Flag 96.

"I was very fortunate to have had the opportunity to represent the U.S. during this unique tour of duty," Garcia said. "And the Venezuelans were appreciative to have someone who knows how the U.S. system works."

Garcia's duties included arranging for all international clearances and refueling, billeting and maintenance requirements for six Venezuelan F-16s and two C-130s to participate in Red Flag, a realistic multinational training exercise held annually at Nellis Air Force Base, Nev.

In addition, Garcia instituted a sister squadron program with the 815th Airlift Squadron from Keesler AFB, Miss.

Through this program, U.S. C-130 pilots get a chance to practice the tricky maneuvers of mountainous-terrain flying and Venezuelan C-130 pilots get a chance to practice heavy drops, Garcia said.

"The sister squadron program has been an excellent way to foster a relationship with an important regional ally," Garcia said.

The personnel exchange program in Latin America, consists of 21 exchanges in 10 countries and is managed by 12th Air Force at Davis-Monthan AFB, Ariz. Officers interested in exchange duty can contact Maj. Rob Dempsey at DSN 228-5197. (Courtesy AMC News Service)

Air Force announces environmental awards

WASHINGTON (AFNS - 980047) — The Air Force has announced its environmental awards for 1997 and its nominees for the secretary of defense environmental security awards.

The following won the 1997 Air Force Environmental Awards:

- Environmental Quality Award (Industrial): Robins Air Force Base, Ga.

- Environmental Quality Award (Non-Industrial): Scott AFB, Ill.

- Environmental Quality Award (Overseas): Lajes Field, Azores; honorable mention: Kadena Air Base, Japan

- Environmental Quality Award (Reserve Component): Grissom Air Reserve Base, Ind.

- Environmental Quality Award for Individual Excellence: Capt. Jeffrey Mathieu, Aviano AB, Italy

- Natural Resources Management Award (Small Base): Robins AFB, Ga.

- Natural Resources Management Award (Large Base): Air Force Academy, Colo.

- Natural Resources Management Award for Individual Excellence: Philip Pruitt, Hurlburt Field, Fla.

- Cultural Resources Management Award: MacDill AFB, Fla.

- Cultural Resources Management Award for Individual Excellence: Richard Bryant, F.E. Warren AFB, Wyo.

- Restoration Award: Ellsworth AFB, S.D.

- Restoration Award for Individual Excellence: Charles Rothrock, Luke AFB, Ariz.; honorable mention: Dell Petersen, Ellsworth AFB, S.D.

- Pollution Prevention Award (Industrial): Robins AFB, Ga.
- Pollution Prevention Award (Non-Industrial): Dyess AFB, Texas
- Pollution Prevention Acquisition Team Award: Affirmative Procurement Program Team, McChord AFB, Wash.
- Recycling Award (Industrial): Robins AFB, Ga.
- Recycling Award (Non-Industrial): Barksdale AFB, La.
- Recycling Award for Individual Excellence: Gary Raknerud, Grand Forks AFB, N.D.

The following Air Force award winners will be nominated for the Secretary of Defense Environmental Security Awards.

- Natural Resources Conservation Award, Small Installation: Robins AFB, Ga.
- Natural Resources Conservation Award, Large Installation: Air Force Academy, Colo.
- Natural Resources Conservation Award, Individual: Philip Pruitt, Hurlburt Field, Fla.
- Cultural Resources Management Award, Installation: MacDill AFB, Fla.
- Cultural Resources Management Award, Individual: Richard Bryant, F.E. Warren AFB, Wyo.
- Environmental Quality Award, Industrial: Robins AFB, Ga.
- Environmental Quality Award, Non-Industrial: Scott AFB, Ill.
- Environmental Quality Award, Individual: Capt. Jeffrey Mathieu, Aviano AB, Italy
- Pollution Prevention Award, Industrial: Robins AFB, Ga.
- Pollution Prevention Award, Non-Industrial: Dyess AFB, Texas
- Pollution Prevention Award, Weapon System Acquisition Team: Affirmative Procurement Program Team, McChord AFB, Wash.
- Recycling Award, Industrial: Robins AFB, Ga.
- Recycling Award, Non-Industrial: Barksdale AFB, La.
- Recycling Award, Individual: Gary Raknerud, Grand Forks AFB, N.D.
- Environmental Cleanup Award, Installation: Ellsworth AFB, S.D.

Air Force honors top analysts

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio (AFNS - 980045) — Five officers and civilians have been named

Air Force Analysts of the Year.

The presentations were the highlight of the fourth annual Air Force Operations Research Symposium here. The symposium featured professional exchanges, briefings on military and civilian career management, updates on current Air Force policies on analysis, modeling and simulation, and major-command job fairs.

The analyst awards honor the top Air Force military and civilian analysts for outstanding contribution to unit mission, impact on an Air Force decision and improvements in operations research methodology.

Jeff Beekman, 422nd Test and Evaluation Squadron, Nellis Air Force Base, Nev., is the Junior Civilian Analyst of the Year. He developed a methodology for approaching, executing and analyzing tactics development and evaluations. His recommendations were used to develop the Air Combat Command tactics development and evaluations test program for F-16s, F-15C's, F-15E's, F-117s, A-10s and HH-60s.

Beekman also reviewed, improved and refined the mid-life upgrade test plan for European F-16s. As a result, he will represent the Air Force as the lead analyst for the mid-life upgrade test during a one-year tour of duty in the Netherlands.

Karen L. Somers, Senior Civilian Analyst of the Year, led the Quick-Look Analysis Team at Headquarters Air Combat Command Plans, Programs Studies and Analysis Squadron, Langley. She led 13 quick-response analyses, including bomber force assessment, C-130J stretch analysis, HH-60 rescue, B-52 tanker requirement, Barksdale pharmacy analysis, combat search-and-rescue requirements and concept of operations for advanced systems in operations other than war.

Capt. Jeffery D. Weir, U.S. Strategic Command/J5, Offutt Air Force Base, Neb., is the Company Grade Military Analyst of the Year. He was a key player in a highly select group performing START III analysis in late 1996. He established critical parameters for this study that allowed the analysis of various treaty positions.

His results were briefed to the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, secretary of defense and the president. The president ultimately used Weir's analysis to set the bounds of negotiation with Russian President Yeltsin. Weir was also a central figure when the secretary of defense declined to fund

electromagnetic pulse nuclear detonation detection.

Because of their outstanding contributions, two Field Grade Analyst of the Year recipients were chosen: Maj. Robert A. Nuanes, Headquarters Air Force Studies and Analysis, and Maj. Glenn G. Rousseau, Headquarters Air Mobility Command Studies and Analysis Flight, Scott Air Force Base, Ill.

Nuanes developed an innovative method to relate unit operation and personnel tempo to unit stress. As a result of his study, the Air Force programmed two more Rivet Joint aircraft and seven more Rivet Joint crews, reduced exercises by 5 percent in 1999 and 2000, eliminated Quality Air Force assessments starting Jan. 1, 1998, and started a post-deployment stand-down policy.

Rousseau led an analysis of AMC compliance with the Global Air Traffic Management system. His analysis showed that failure to fund the system results in unacceptable delays delivering troops and equipment to theater warfighters.

As a result, system funding was added to the fiscal year 1997 defense budget with an added \$4.5 million designated for FY '98. The House National Security Committee also recommended a \$67.7 million "plus-up" for FY '98.

The symposium also presented its first Lifetime Achievement Award to Frank Campanile of Air Systems Command at Wright-Patterson. Through 36 years of federal service, he made contributions in aircraft performance, precision navigation, target acquisition, sortie generation, electronic warfare, weapons effectiveness and delivery, and conventional and non-conventional survivability and vulnerability.

Campanile's analyses, according to the symposium, has saved the Air Force millions of dollars and resulted in highly capable, affordable military systems.

Indiana, New Jersey cadets win CAP National Competitions

MAXWELL AIR FORCE BASE, Ala. (AFNS - 980032) — New Jersey and Indiana supplied the big winners during two Civil Air Patrol national competitions Dec. 28 and 29 here.

Five young Indianians posted a first-place win at Civil Air Patrol's National Color Guard Competition. The Indiana

youth bested teams from Nevada, West Virginia, New Hampshire, Minnesota, Colorado, Tennessee and New Mexico in inspections, drills, physical fitness and academics.

During the competition, cadets performed a series of drills while presenting and posting the flags of the United States and Civil Air Patrol.

"The National Color Guard Competition underscores CAP's mission to instill patriotism in American youth," said Bergman. "In many areas, Civil Air Patrol cadets serve as goodwill ambassadors on behalf of the U.S. Air Force, posting the flags at community and sporting events and during parades."

Cadets from Tennessee won second-place honors for the Southeast Region while the Rocky Mountain Region's Colorado team took home third place. New Mexico cadet Jason Scholer received the high score on the written examination, which tests knowledge in areas such as current events, leadership, and Air Force and Civil Air Patrol history. Minnesota cadet Kelly Vaughn was named outstanding cadet.

"This competition is designed to help standardize flag ceremonies throughout Civil Air Patrol's Cadet Program," says Bergman. Members of the U.S. Air Force Honor Guard officiated the competition.

Meanwhile, the New Jersey cadets won first-place honors for the Northeast Region in Civil Air Patrol's National Cadet Competition. The New Jersey cadets bested seven other teams in academic, leadership, and physical fitness challenges. In addition, the eight 16-member teams performed standard and innovative military drills. NCC was held in conjunction with Civil Air Patrol's National Color Guard Competition.

"The cadets taking part in this competition are tops in Civil Air Patrol and extraordinary when compared with other teenagers," says Brig. Gen. Paul M. Bergman, CAP national commander. "The youths from New Jersey proved themselves in a tough competition with their dynamic peers."

The New Jersey cadets took first place honors in the standard drill, written examination, and volleyball competition. Cadet Anthony Valdivieso won the individual physical fitness award.

On the heels of the New Jersey team, Southeast Region's Florida cadets placed second, winning the innovative drill, the in-ranks inspection and the physical fitness test.

Cadet Adam Ganuza received the high score on the written examination, which tests knowledge in areas such as current events, aviation, and Air Force and Civil Air Patrol history. Southwest Region's Louisiana cadets won third place honors, while placing second to New Jersey in the volleyball tournament.

Ohio cadets made an impressive showing, placing first in the panel quiz. Ohio cadet Mark Fogel and Maryland cadet Heather Sines posted the fastest times in the one-mile run.

The teams received their honors during an awards ceremony Monday night at Maxwell's Officer Club. Guest speaker National Transportation and Safety Board member, the Honorable John Goglia, described his experience as an investigator at crash sites, including TWA Flight 800.

The leadership training provided by CAP's Cadet Program is evident at the U.S. Air Force Academy, where former CAP cadets comprise 10 percent of the student population. In addition, many former CAP cadets attend the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, and the U.S. Naval Academy at Annapolis, Md.

The cornerstone of CAP's Cadet Program is designed to motivate and develop well-rounded young people, ages 12-21, through physical fitness, leadership training, moral and ethical guidance, and aerospace education. Today, more than 24,000 young men and women from across the nation participate in the Civil Air Patrol Cadet Program.

Civil Air Patrol, the official Air Force Auxiliary, is a nonprofit organization. For more information about Civil Air Patrol programs, call 1-800-FLY-2338.

Air Force athlete makes Olympic Team

RANDOLPH AFB, Texas (AFNS - 980029) — An Alaska air guardsman has skied and shot her way into a spot on the U.S. Olympic Team for the 1998 Winter Olympics Feb. 7-22 in Nagano, Japan.

Airman 1st Class Deborah L. Nordyke, a member of the Air Force World Class Athlete Program, competes in the Nordic biathlon event which requires competitors to race on cross country skis over a set course, while carrying a rifle, and fire at stationary targets at different stages on the course.

Raised in Anchorage, Alaska, Nordyke

started downhill and back country skiing in her teen years. After obtaining a bachelor's degree in education at the University of Alaska, Anchorage, she joined the Alaska Air National Guard in 1986 where she was assigned to the 142nd Security Police Squadron. While serving as a police officer with the ANG, she was approached by a member of the Guard's ski team, asking if she'd like to join the team as a female biathlete. She joined the team and competed in various ANG championships around the country, establishing a formidable reputation in the sport.

In 1995 she applied for the Air Force WCAP and was accepted, switched to active duty, and transferred to Camp Johnson in Burlington, Vt., to train full-time for the 1998 Winter Olympics.

"Deborah won her Olympic spot in late December at the U.S. Olympic Nordic Biathlon Trials at Jericho, Vt.," explained Steve Brown, Air Force sports office. "She was among the nation's top 20 female Nordic biathletes who were competing for two open positions on the women's team. All competitors competed head-to-head in four days of trials."

During the Vermont trials, conducted from Dec. 26, 1997 to Jan. 3, each competitor was required to ski two, 15-kilometer and two, 7.5-kilometer courses. Each course had four stages where competitors fired five rounds from their .22 caliber rifle at stationary targets. In the long course, biathletes were assessed a one-minute penalty for each missed shot. In the short course, competitors were required to ski an additional 150-meter loop for each target missed. Competitors were allowed to drop one day's results from their total composite score. Nordyke overcame her 15th place finish on the competition's first day, with a first place finish on the following day. After a two-day break, she came back strong with a second place finish during the third day. She finished fifth and solidified her place on the Olympic Team.

"I never would have made the team without the support of the Air Force World Class Athlete Program," said Nordyke. "This is the realization of my lifelong dream."

Lackland loads up for shooting training camp

RANDOLPH AFB, Texas (AFNS - 980044) — The Air Force Running Target

Shooting Team will conduct a training camp at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, March 30 through April 3.

The Air Force sponsors the camp to select members for the 1998 team. "We're looking for active duty male and female members who are interested in running target shooting," explained Master Sgt. Don Bridge, Air Force Shooting Program. "Competitive experience in running target, small bore, or high power shooting is desirable but not mandatory."

Travel to the training camp will be on permissive temporary duty orders at no cost to the government. Interested members should complete an Air Force Form 303, have it signed by the athletic director at their local base fitness center, and send it to HQ AFSVA/SVPAF, 10100 Reunion Place Suite 402, San Antonio TX 78216-4138, Attn: Master Sgt. Donald Bridge. All forms must reach Bridge by March 10. For more information on the camp and the team, call Lt. Col. Jim Gottschalk at DSN 692-9853.

'Dangerous Skies' premieres at Pentagon

WASHINGTON (AFNS - 980024) — In a special presentation, the upcoming Arts and Entertainment Network production, "Dangerous Skies: Inside the U.S. Air Force," premiered Jan. 7 before an audience of 200 of the Air Force's senior leaders.

The two-hour Investigative Reports special presentation debuts at 8 p.m. EST, Jan. 11 on A&E. The program will be repeated Jan. 17 and 24 at 9 p.m. and 1 a.m., EST both days.

Acting Secretary of the Air Force F. Whitten Peters, who attended the screening, called the program "a documentary of life in the Air Force as it really is."

He added that, "Dangerous Skies" is "a shining example of the high-quality work produced by the long-standing partnership between the entertainment industry and our Air Force."

Peters said that the program is "an up-close and personal portrayal of today's airmen - with their professionalism and the pride that they take in suiting up every day displayed in scene after scene. But it also realistically portrays the demands placed on our men and women - and especially their families - by deployments and by the difficulties and long hours of work that excellence demands."

Filmed from February through June 1997, the program looks at the Air Force from the inside, trying to get a sense of what it feels like to be in Air Force squadrons, especially when airmen are separated from families. Family members are also interviewed.

Bill Kurtis hosts the program with close-up looks at two fighter squadrons: the Lightning Lancers, an F-16 combat squadron in Saudi Arabia, as it flies patrols over Southern Iraq; and the White Knights, an A-10 combat squadron, as it practices war games inside the United States.

"Dangerous Skies" also lives with the pilots of a stealth fighter squadron in New Mexico, and with helicopter rescue squadron members who are trained and prepared to rescue downed pilots deep inside enemy territory. Viewers can see the pilots at home, during training and on combat missions.

Cameras follow an F-16 Fighting Falcon to the border of Iraq and show A-10 Thunderbolts over a bombing range in the Mojave Desert. The guides on this two-hour airborne adventure are 16 flyers and fighters who share their views, feelings and fears as they patrol dangerous skies around the world.

Looking beyond the headlines of 1997

by Staff Sgt. Amy Hickey
AMC News Service

SCOTT AIR FORCE BASE, ILL. (AFNS - 980031) — On the surface, 1997 was a difficult year for the Air Force.

But if you dig deeper, beyond the headlines, soundbites, book excerpts and "in-depth" stories, the Air Force had one of its best years in history. From humanitarian missions at home and abroad to preserving peace in every corner of the world, the force achieved unprecedented success.

Its presence in Bosnia and Kuwait allowed children to walk to school without the threat of gunfire and families to sleep without the fear that their homes would be invaded during the night.

As Haiti wrestled with democracy, Air Force medics cared for its residents, providing free medical care and performing critical surgeries. In Guyana, blue suiters injected hundreds of children with life-saving immunizations. Worldwide, the force transported 40,000 patients to hospitals for specialized

medical treatment. The president of an Asian nation, premature babies and countless others were saved by the responsive actions of American airmen throughout the world.

When a savage typhoon ripped through southern Vietnam and left tens of thousands of people homeless, the Air Force was there, delivering nearly half-a-million-dollars worth of relief supplies.

In a remote area of the Amazon jungle, airmen worked diligently to protect America from illegal drugs. Using radar and satellite systems, they were able to thwart numerous planes attempting to smuggle drugs out of Peru.

In Veracruz, Panama, Air Force engineers battled disease-carrying mosquitoes. They removed washing machines, stoves and bus tires from the town's curbs — junk that collected water and became a breeding haven for mosquitoes that carry dengue fever. The Air Force destroyed 80 percent of the mosquito hideouts in the city, sparing many residents from the painful and potentially fatal disease.

Its members fought raging forest fires in Indonesia, built schools and medical clinics in South America, and delivered clothes and toys to needy orphans in Eastern Europe.

The force was also busy at home.

In January, it hauled 36,000 pounds of winter supplies to a Sioux Indian Reservation in South Dakota. Without clothing and blankets provided by the force, many of the 12,000 Native Americans living in substandard housing on the reservation may not have survived the blustery winter.

When spring flooding threatened a small town in North Dakota, Air Force members helped stuff 2.5 million sandbags and build several miles of dikes in an attempt to avert the rising Red River. When the town's 60,000 residents had to be evacuated, airmen at Grand Forks Air Force Base welcomed them into their homes, providing safe places to sleep and hot meals. The Air Force delivered 150 tons of relief supplies, and its members dug deep into their own pockets to raise nearly \$200,000 for families who had lost everything to the merciless river. It was a busy year. (Courtesy AMC News Service)